

**OPINIONS AND DECLARATIONS
RENDERED BY THE INTER-
NATIONAL COMMISSION ON
ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE**

Edited by

FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.

Secretary to the Commission

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OPINION 153

On the status of the names *Bethylus* Latreille,
[1802-1803], and *Dryinus* Latreille, [1804]
(Class Insecta, Order Hymenoptera)

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INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

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* This vacancy was caused by the death on 24th January, 1941, of Dr. Charles Wardell STILES (U.S.A.), *Vice-President of the Commission* and former Secretary to the Commission (1897-1935).

OPINION 153.

ON THE STATUS OF THE NAMES *BETHYLUS* LATREILLE, [1802–1803], AND *DRYINUS* LATREILLE, [1804] (CLASS INSECTA, ORDER HYMENOPTERA).

SUMMARY.—Under suspension of the rules (i) all existing type designations for *Bethylus* Latreille, [1802–1803],¹ are suppressed; and (ii) *Omalus fuscicornis* Jurine, 1807, is hereby designated as the type of *Bethylus* Latreille. The names *Bethylus* Latreille, with the type indicated above, and *Dryinus* Latreille, [1804], with type *Dryinus formicarius* Latreille, [1804–1805] (Class Insecta, Order Hymenoptera) are hereby added to the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* as Names Nos. 596 and 597.

I.—THE STATEMENT OF THE CASE.

As the result of consultations initiated by Professor James Chester Bradley with the leading systematic workers in the Hymenoptera in all countries, the following petition signed by Professor Chester Bradley and 59 other hymenopterists was submitted to the International Commission:—

The case of *Psilus*, *Bethylus* and *Dryinus*

Under the rules, as shown by Bradley (1919, p. 71),² *Psilus* Jurine, 1801, is the valid name for the genus of wasps universally known as *Bethylus*, type of the family BETHYLIDAE, and therefore the family named BETHYLIDAE must be changed to the unfamiliar family PSILIDAE.

The type of *Bethylus* Latr., 1802, is *Tiphia hemiptera* Fabr., a species not certainly recognizable but which may be a *Dryinus* in the sense of authors (see Dalla Torre) or a *Bethylus* in the sense of the customary usage of that name (see Kieffer). Under the rules it would seem that *Bethylus* as well as the family name BETHYLIDAE must be suppressed.

Dryinus Fabr. (1804, *Syst. Piez.* p. 200) was proposed for five species, *aeneus*, *auripennis*, *planifrons*, *planiceps*, and *explanatus*. Schulz has studied the Fabrician types and finds that no one of these was a *Dryinus* in the sense of Latreille, 1805, and all subsequent authors. So far as I am aware, no one has designated a type for *Dryinus* Fabr., 1804.

Dryinus Latr., 1805, type *D. formicarius* Latr. by designation of Latr., 1810, is a homonym of *Dryinus* Fabr., 1804, as pointed out by Kieffer (1911) and by Schulz (1912) and hence invalid under the Code. Kieffer (*loc. cit.*) has proposed for it the new name *Lestrodryinus*.³

¹ Where the date of a name can be ascertained only by reference to some work other than that in which the name in question was first published, that date is cited in square brackets.

² The reference is to Bradley, 1919, *Trans. ent. Soc. Lond.* 1919 : 71.

³ *Lestrodryinus* Kieffer, 1911, *Bull. Soc. Metz* 27 : 108.

But *Dryinus* Latr. (*nec* Fabr.) is the type of the family DRYINIDAE Haliday, 1837, and most subsequent writers. Schulz (1906) has therefore proposed the name ANTEONIDAE to replace DRYINIDAE Haliday, 1837, basing the name on *Anteon* Jurine, 1807, the next oldest contained genus in the family. In this procedure Schulz appears to the undersigned to be wrong.* Since *Dryinus* Latr., 1805, is type of the family DRYINIDAE Haliday, 1837, but is a homonym of *Dryinus* Fabr., the name of the genus *Dryinus* must be changed (to *Lestrodryinus* Kieffer if it is the first name available under the Code) but the same genus should remain as type under its new name and the family name should be based on the replacing name (i.e. LESTRODRYINIDAE not ANTEONIDAE).

We respectfully wish to ask the Commission to decide whether under the Code and so far as the facts known and above stated indicate, the name of the family should be ANTEONIDAE or LESTRODRYINIDAE.⁴

Further, in view of the uncertainty as to whether *Bethylus hemipterus* is or is not a Dryinid (sense of authors) and as to whether BETHYLIDAE ought not really to be used in the sense of DRYINIDAE instead of in its customary sense, and of the needless confusion that will arise in the minds of all and in future literature if we must change all these long-established names, the undersigned respectfully petition you to invoke the plenary power conferred by the Monaco Congress, and to take action as follows :

- (1) suspend the rules in the case of *Psilus* Jurine, 1801, *Dryinus* Fabricius, 1804, *Dryinus* Latreille, 1805, *Bethylus* Latreille, 1802;
- (2) to permanently reject *Psilus* Jurine, 1801, type *Psilus cenoptera* (Panzer) Jurine, i.e. *Tiphia cenoptera* Panzer, and *Dryinus* Fabricius, 1804;
- (3) to validate :—
 - (a) *Bethylus* Latreille, 1802, establishing any known European species as for example *Bethylus cephalotes* Förster, as type, in lieu of the unidentified *B. hemipterus*;
 - (b) *Dryinus* Latr., 1805, type *Dryinus formicarius* Latr.;
- (4) to place on the *Official List of Generic Names* :—
 - (a) *Bethylus* Latreille, type *Bethylus cephalotes* Förster, for the genus of wasps commonly passing under that name;
 - (b) *Dryinus* Latr., 1805, type *Dryinus formicarius* Latr., for the genus of wasps commonly passing under that name.

* Art. 5 of the Code says "The name of a family or subfamily is to be changed when the name of its type genus is changed" but it does not specify that the type genus itself is to be changed.⁴

2. The following is the list of signatures attached to the above petition at the time of its submission to the International Commission :—

C. T. Brues	R. Benoist *	H. Haupt
Jos. Bequaert	J. D. Alfken *	H. Brauns †
G. Grandi	A. Krausse	L. Berland
A. B. Gahan *	M. Wolff	A. A. Oglobin
T. H. Frison *	J. G. Betrem	O. W. Richards
A. R. Park *	R. Fouts	P. P. Baby
H. H. Ross *	G. Arnold	V. S. L. Pate

⁴ For the decision of the Commission on the principles to be observed in interpreting Article 4 of the International Code relating to the naming of families and subfamilies, see *Opinion* 141.

J. M. Dusmet	A. Handlirsch	J. C. Bradley
W. M. Wheeler *	I. Micha	G. Enderlein
G. T. Lyle	H. Hacker	T. Uchida †
R. A. Cushman *	A. C. Kinsey *	O. Vogt †
E. A. Elliott	H. de W. Marriott	H. Habermehl †
A. Crevecoeur	F. Maidl	E. Kruger †
W. M. Mann	P. Roth	W. Hellen †
R. Friese	E. Enslin	F. X. Williams †
H. von Ihering ‡	A. von Schulthess	O. Schmiedeknecht †
A. C. W. Wagner	R. B. Benson *	N. N. Kuznezov-
H. Hedicke	H. F. Schwarz	Ugamtsky †
H. Bischoff	W. V. Balouf *	F. E. Lutz
L. Masi	D. S. Wilkinson *	L. H. Weld *

* In accord with results sought by the petition without having studied the points involved in the particular case.

† Evidently intended to subscribe to this petition, but sheet bearing his signature was not included in his reply.

‡ Deceased.

II.—THE SUBSEQUENT HISTORY OF THE CASE.

3. This case was circulated to the members of the International Commission in January 1935, when it was arranged that it and the other Hymenoptera cases submitted at the same time should be dealt with at the meeting of the Commission due to be held at Lisbon in September of that year, by which time the recommendations of the International Committee on Entomological Nomenclature would be available.

4. This case was considered by the International Committee on Entomological Nomenclature at its meeting held at Madrid in the second week of September 1935 during the Sixth International Congress of Entomology. The International Committee found itself in general agreement with the object sought in the petition, except that it considered that, if the International Commission were to agree to use their plenary powers in this case, it would be preferable that the Commission should designate *Omalus fuscicornis* Jurine, 1807, as the type of *Bethylus* Latreille, [1802-1803], rather than *Bethylus cephalotes* Förster, the species tentatively suggested in the petition. After careful consideration the Committee decided to frame its recommendations to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, first on the assumption that the Commission would agree to use their plenary powers to suppress the "Erlangen List" in which the name *Psilus* Jurine, 1801, was published, and second on the assumption that the Commission would not be able to see their way to deal with the problem in this radical fashion. If the first of these courses were taken by the International Commission, there would

be no need to suspend the rules for the purpose of eliminating the name *Psilus* Jurine, 1801, since that name would cease to be available nomenclatorially immediately the "Erlangen List" was suppressed. It would still be necessary, however, for the International Commission to use their plenary powers in order to achieve the object indicated in the petition. The International Committee accordingly recommended that, if the "Erlangen List" were not suppressed, the whole of the petition should be granted, except for the substitution of *Omalus fuscicornis* Jurine, 1807, for *Bethylus cephalotes* Förster as the species to be designated as the type of *Bethylus* Latreille, [1802-1803]; and that, if the "Erlangen List" were suppressed, the petition should be dealt with in the same way, except that in that case there would be no need to take any specific action as regards *Psilus* Jurine, 1801.

5. These and other resolutions adopted by the International Committee at its meeting held at Madrid were subsequently confirmed by the Sixth International Congress of Entomology at the Concilium Plenum held at Madrid on 12th September 1935.

III.—THE CONCLUSION REACHED BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION.

6. When the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature met at Lisbon immediately after the close of the Sixth International Congress of Entomology in September 1935, they found themselves confronted with a large number of cases involving proposals for the suspension of the rules, in respect of some of which advertisements had not been published or, if published, had not been published for the prescribed period, owing to the illness of Dr. C. W. Stiles, Secretary to the Commission, or for other causes. In these circumstances the Commission decided at their meeting held on the morning of Monday, 16th September 1935 (Lisbon Session, 2nd Meeting, Conclusion 9), that immediate consideration should be given to all cases submitted to the Commission that, in their judgment, had reached the stage at which a decision could properly be taken; that the By-Laws of the Commission should be suspended during the Lisbon Session to such extent as might be necessary to give effect to this decision; and that, in so far as this procedure involved taking decisions "under suspension of the rules" in cases where the prescribed advertisement procedure had not been complied with, the cases in question should be duly advertised as soon as might be practicable after

the conclusion of the Lisbon Congress and that no *Opinion* should be rendered and published thereon until after the expiry of a period of one year from the date on which the said advertisement was despatched to the prescribed journals for publication. The case of the names *Bethylus* Latreille, [1802-1803], and *Dryinus* Latreille, [1804], was one of the cases in question and was accordingly dealt with under the above procedure.

7. At their meeting held at Lisbon on the morning of Monday, 16th September 1935 (Lisbon Session, 2nd Meeting, Conclusion 13), the International Commission unanimously agreed to use the plenary powers conferred upon them by the Ninth International Congress of Zoology at Monaco in 1913, in order to suppress the "Erlangen List".⁵ When, therefore, at their meeting held on the afternoon of the same day (Lisbon Session, 3rd Meeting, Conclusion 2) the Commission came to consider the present case, they found that there was no need to make use of their plenary powers, so far as the name *Psilus* Jurine, 1801, was concerned, since that name had ceased to be available on the suppression of the "Erlangen List". The Commission proceeded therefore to consider this case in the light of the recommendations framed by the International Committee on Entomological Nomenclature in anticipation of the decision that the "Erlangen List" would be suppressed.

8. When the Commission turned to the examination of the details of this case, attention was drawn to the fact that since its submission to the Commission further information had become available regarding the dates of publication of the works in which two of the names cited in the petition were first published (see Griffin, 1935, in Richards, *Trans. R. ent. Soc. Lond.* **83** : 144) :—

- (a) The name *Dryinus* Latreille was published on page 176 of volume 25 (Tab.) of the *Nouvelle Dictionnaire d'Histoire naturelle*. This work had hitherto been treated as having been published in 1805. It had now been ascertained, however, that it was already published by March 1804;
- (b) The name *Dryinus* Fabricius was published on page 200 of that author's *Systema Piezatorum*, which, though dated "1804", was probably published in the early part of 1805 and was certainly not published until late in 1804. This name must therefore be dated [1804-1805].

⁵ See *Opinion* 135.

There is thus now no doubt that *Dryinus* Latreille is an older name than *Dryinus* Fabricius and not (as previously supposed) the reverse. In these circumstances there was no need to suspend the rules (as proposed in the petition) so far as concerns these two names.

9. After careful consideration, the Commission decided to approve the recommendation submitted in this case by the International Committee, subject only to the modification noted in paragraph 8 above. The Commission accordingly agreed (Lisbon Session, 3rd Meeting, Conclusion 2) ⁶ :—

- (a) to place on the *Official List of Generic Names* the undermentioned six nomenclatorially available names, with types as shown, each of which has been duly designated in accordance with the provisions of the International Code :—

Name of genus	Type of genus
..... (3) <i>Dryinus</i> Latreille, [March 1804], <i>Nouv. Dict. Hist. nat.</i> 24(Tab.) : 176	<i>Dryinus formicarius</i> Latreille, [Sept. 1804–Sept. 1805], (in Sonnini's Buffon) <i>Hist. nat. gén. partic. Crust. Ins.</i> 13 : 228 (monotypical)

- (c) under " suspension of the rules " to set aside all type designations for the undermentioned genera and to declare their types to be the species indicated below :—

Name of genus	Type of genus
..... (28) <i>Bethylus</i> Latreille, [1802–1803], (in Sonnini's Buffon) <i>Hist. nat. gén. partic. Crust. Ins.</i> 3 : 315	<i>Omalus fuscicornis</i> Jurine, 1807, <i>Nouv. Méth. class. Hyménopt.</i> : 301

- (d) under " suspension of the rules " to place on the *Official List of Generic Names* the sixteen generic names enumerated in (c) above (names (19) to (34)), each with the type species there indicated ;
 (e) to render *Opinions* in the sense of (a) to (d) above.

10. The foregoing decisions were embodied in paragraphs 25 (*Dryinus* Latreille) and 27 (*Bethylus* Latreille) of the report which at their meeting held on the morning of Wednesday, 18th September 1935, the Commission (Lisbon Session, 5th Meeting, Conclusion 6) unanimously agreed to submit to the Twelfth International Congress of Zoology. That report was unanimously approved by the Section on Nomenclature at its joint meeting with the International Commission held on the afternoon of the same day. It was thereupon submitted to the Twelfth International Congress

⁶ Only those portions of Conclusion 2 which relate to the present case are here quoted. For the full text of Conclusion 2, see 1943, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 1 : 27–30.

of Zoology by which it was unanimously approved and adopted at the Concilium Plenum held on the afternoon of Saturday, 21st September 1935, the last day of the Congress.

11. In accordance with the decision taken by the Commission at Lisbon in regard to their procedure at that Session (paragraph 6 above), this case was duly advertised in 1936 in two or more of the journals named in the Resolution adopted by the Ninth International Congress of Zoology at its meeting held at Monaco in March 1913, by which the said International Congress conferred upon the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature plenary power to suspend the rules as applied to any given case where, in the judgment of the Commission, the strict application of the rules would clearly result in greater confusion than uniformity.⁷ In the period that has elapsed since the advertisement in the said journals of the proposed suspension of the rules in the case of the names specified in paragraph 9 above, no communication of any kind has been received by the International Commission objecting to the issue of an *Opinion* in the terms proposed.

12. The present *Opinion* was concurred in by the twelve (12) Commissioners and Alternates present at the Lisbon Session of the International Commission, namely :—

Commissioners :—Calman; Hemming; Jordan; Pellegrin; Peters; and Stejneger.
 Alternates :—do Amaral *vice* Cabrera; Ohshima *vice* Esaki; Bradley *vice* Stone; Beier *vice* Handlirsch; Arndt *vice* Richter; and Mortensen *vice* Apstein.

13. The present *Opinion* was dissented from by no Commissioner or Alternate present at the Lisbon Session. Nor since that Session has any Commissioner who was neither present on that occasion nor represented thereat by an Alternate indicated disagreement with the conclusions then reached by the Commission in this matter. The following five (5) Commissioners who were not present at Lisbon nor represented thereat by Alternates did not vote on the above *Opinion* :—

Bolivar y Pieltain; Chapman; Fantham; Silvestri; and Stiles.

IV.—AUTHORITY FOR THE ISSUE OF THE PRESENT *OPINION*.

WHEREAS the Ninth International Congress of Zoology at its meeting held at Monaco in March 1913, adopted a Resolution

⁷ See *Declaration* 5.

conferring upon the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, acting for the International Congress of Zoology, plenary power to suspend the rules as applied to any given case, where, in the judgment of the Commission, the strict application of the said rules would clearly result in greater confusion than uniformity, provided that not less than one year's notice of the possible suspension of the rules as applied to the said case should be given in two or more of five journals named in the said Resolution, and provided that the vote in the Commission was unanimously in favour of the proposed suspension of the rules; and

WHEREAS the suspension of the rules is required to give valid force to certain of the provisions of the present *Opinion* as set out in the summary thereof; and

WHEREAS not less than one year's notice of the possible suspension of the rules as applied to the name *Bethylus* Latreille dealt with in the present *Opinion* has been given to two or more of the journals referred to in the Resolution adopted by the Ninth International Congress of Zoology at its meeting held at Monaco in March 1913; and

WHEREAS the vote in the Commission at their Lisbon Session was unanimously in favour of the issue of an *Opinion* in the terms of the present *Opinion*;

NOW, THEREFORE,

I, FRANCIS HEMMING, Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, acting in virtue of all and every the powers conferred upon me in that behalf by reason of holding the said Office of Secretary to the International Commission, hereby announce the said *Opinion* on behalf of the International Commission, acting for the International Congress of Zoology, and direct that it be rendered and printed as *Opinion* Number One Hundred and Fifty Three (*Opinion* 153) of the said Commission.

In faith whereof, I, the undersigned FRANCIS HEMMING, Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, have signed the present *Opinion*.

DONE in London, this fourteenth day of April, Nineteen Hundred and Forty Three, in a single copy, which shall remain deposited in the archives of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

*Secretary to the International Commission
on Zoological Nomenclature.*

FRANCIS HEMMING

THE PUBLICATIONS OF THE COMMISSION.

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Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature.

This journal has been established by the International Commission as their Official Organ in order to provide a medium for the publication of :—

- (a) proposals on zoological nomenclature submitted to the Commission for deliberation and decision;
- (b) comments received from, and correspondence by the Secretary with, zoologists on proposals published in the *Bulletin* under (a) above : and
- (c) papers on nomenclatorial implications of developments in taxonomic theory and practice.

Three Parts have so far been published : Part 1 (introductory, including an account of the functions and powers of the Commission and a summary of the work so far achieved); Part 2 (relating to the financial position of the Commission); Part 3 (containing the official records of the decisions taken by the Commission at their meeting at Lisbon in 1935).

Opinions and Declarations Rendered by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

Volume 1 will contain *Declarations* 1-9 (which have never previously been published) and *Opinions* 1-133 (the original issue of which is now out of print). Parts 1-12 (containing *Declarations* 1-9 and *Opinions* 1-3) have now been published.

Volume 2 commences with *Declaration* 10 and *Opinion* 134. Parts 1-25 (containing *Declarations* 10-12 and *Opinions* 134-155) have so far been published. The titles of these *Opinions* are given on the wrappers to Parts 1 and 2 of the *Bulletin*. Other Parts will be published shortly.

**AN URGENT APPEAL FOR A FUND OF £1800 TO
ENABLE THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION TO
CONTINUE ITS WORK**

The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature urgently appeal for grants to the above Fund to Museums, Research Institutes and other Institutions concerned with any branch of zoology ; to Learned Societies and Associations concerned with any aspect of zoology ; to Institutions and Learned Societies in the fields of Agriculture, Horticulture, Medicine and Veterinary Science, all of whom have a direct interest in that portion of the work of the Commission which is concerned with the stabilisation of Zoological Nomenclature ; to University and other Departments engaged in the teaching of zoology as being directly interested to secure stability in the scientific nomenclature used in biological text-books ; and to every individual zoologist who may be in a position to contribute to the funds of the Commission. Full particulars of the purposes for which the above Fund is required are given in Part 2 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*.

Contributions of any amount, however small, will be most gratefully received. They should be addressed to the Commission at their Publications Office, 41, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7. Bankers' drafts, cheques, and Postal Orders, should be made payable to the "International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature" and crossed "Account payee. Coutts & Co."